

**REMARKS**

Applicants submit herewith the English translation of the present application which was originally filed in German.

Applicants have amended the claims in order to reduce the initial filing fee by deleting the multiple dependent claims from the application. Applicants retain the right to reintroduce any subject matter canceled by the present Amendment at any time during the prosecution of this application or any further application claiming benefit of this application.

Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the Search Report which issued on International Application No. PCT/EP00/03953, of which the present application is the U.S. national phase. All of the publications cited in the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is Applicants' understanding that, under the procedures of the PCT, copies of the cited publications will have been supplied to the U.S. Patent Office by the International Bureau. However, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if additional copies are necessary or would facilitate examination of the present application.

Otherwise, the Examiner is respectfully requested to return an initialed and dated copy of the attached Form PTO-1449 to confirm that all publications listed thereon have been considered and made officially of record in the file of this application.

Applicants understand that, under the procedures of the PCT, a copy of the priority document (DE 199 20 225.7, filed 3 May 1999) will have been supplied to the U.S. Patent Office pursuant to Rule 17 of the PCT Regulations. It is therefore respectfully requested that the first Official Action in the present application contain an indication that the appropriate priority document is in the file of this application.

In view of the above amendments, an early action on the application is now in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Marked-Up Version Showing Changes Made**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace claims 3-6, 9, 11, 13 and 16 with the following amended claims.

3(Amended). Reinforcing and/or process fibres comprising a mixture of fibres according to Claim 1 [or 2] and fibrillated aramid fibres.

4(Amended). Fibres according to Claim 3, characterized in that the weight fraction of the fibres [according to Claim 1 or 2] is between 10% and 90%.

5(Amended). Fibres according to Claim 3 [or 4], characterized in that the weight fraction of the fibres [according to Claim 1 or 2] is between 50% and 80%.

6(Amended). Reinforcing and/or process fibres comprising a mixture of fibres according to Claim 1 [or 2] and shives.

9(Amended). Additive for friction linings, containing fibres according to [any of Claims 1 and 8] Claim 1 and tin sulphides.

11(Amended). Friction lining, characterized in that it contains fibres according to [any of Claims 1 to 8] Claim 1.

13(Amended). Gasket, characterized in that it contains fibres according to [any of Claims 1 to 8] Claim 1.

16(Amended). Process according to Claim 11 [or 12], characterized in that the starting material used is a fibre-shives mixture.